

# The Mystery of The Devil's Ace

Or, The Manor Mystery

By Fergus Hume

Author of "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab."

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**SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.**  
Rich Sir John Newby has a twin brother, Richard, who is his secretary. Newby's murdered body is found in a secret room under the tower of the English manor house owned by Francis Clair. In this room, centuries earlier, Clair's ancestor, won the major prize in the "Devil's Ace" game. Clair is poor. He has planned for his daughter Dorothy to marry Sir John. She is engaged to Percy Hallion, a young engineer, who lives with her friends, Wilhelmina and Billy Minter. Count Bekoff, a Russian Nihilist, learning that Clair has intended a large sum of money for the revolutionary cause in Russia, tries to blackmail Clair by accusing him of Newby's murder. Hallion comes to solve the mystery and save Sir John alive. Sir John explains it was Richard who was slain. Sir John, Wilhelmina and the count fall in love with each other. A woman claims to be Sir John's wife. Clair, Newby admits he is married to her. John Clair's butler, goes to a Soho house at Dorothy's request, to probe the mystery. He does not return. Bekoff goes there and searches the room under the tower if Hallion does not return within a week.

## CHAPTER XXI.

## Suspense.

WILLY MINTER was a healthy girl, with great control over her emotions. But the next morning she was unable to get up, and so passed a few hours in bed. Since Willy was, therefore, in bed, with more or less shattered nerves, she was not able to go to the Manor House, as usual, to see Dorothy. Which was as well, since Dorothy and Lady Panwin had gone that morning to London to call on Mrs. Broll. The elder lady had certain mysterious questions she wished to ask the housekeeper. On making inquiries at the door Sir John Newby proved to be out. When Lady Newby was asked for the footman stared and said that his master was not married. Lady Panwin, therefore, sent the servant for Mrs. Broll, and when she was safe in the drawing-room with Dorothy made a mystic remark.

"As I thought," said she, with calm satisfaction, "Sir John did not bring his wife here; therefore, as yet, has not acknowledged his marriage to the world." "Such an honor!" said Mrs. Broll, throwing up her hands and looking more like a gayly plumed parrot than ever. "Please be seated, your ladyship." She drew forward a slippery horse-hair seat. "Miss Clair, with you recline on the sofa, and let me make a few remarks on the records for the poor slave people. We do it to tickle their intellects, my lady."

"What do you mean by making records, Mrs. Broll?" she asked, curiously. The housekeeper began to explain, with great volubility. "This," she said, pointing to the bell-shaped receiver of the machine, and speaking as though to an infant-school, "is a gramophone. Me and Julia here place on this part a disc—on one which there are no marks. Then Julia sets the machinery going, and it recites a little poem, or says a few happy words, and even sings a little song. All that I say is taken down by the machine, and when me and Julia here visit our slum we turn on the machine again, so that it can comfort the poor people with sunshine."

"Have you seen Lady Newby?" asked the other woman, abruptly. Mrs. Broll's sharp eyes looked startled. "There is no Lady Newby." "You are quite sure of that?" "Quite sure, my lady."

"Ah!" Lady Panwin's tone expressed great satisfaction. "It was certain that there was a mistake. Sir John, however, acknowledged as his wife a certain Miss Amy Sanding, and—"

The housekeeper turned as white as death. "Yes, yes," she said, "of course I remember now. She is Lady Newby."

"How clever of you to remember," said Lady Panwin sarcastically. "By the way, Mrs. Broll, I believe Richard was always your favorite?"

"Yes," choked the ex-curse, "he was."

"You mean that he is?"

"Mrs. Broll sprang up like a tigress. "Yes," she said shrilly. "You have guessed the truth. The man you think is Sir John is Richard!"

Dorothy rose from the sofa with a quick little gasp, not being able to grasp the situation.

**Exposure!**

"That is quite enough," said Lady Panwin, cutting short Mrs. Broll's angry voice. "Dorothy, as you well understand, I have known both the Newbys for years. I was well aware that Sir John was not married, and even if he had contracted a secret marriage—which was not his way—I should have known. Therefore, when he so readily admitted that actress to be his wife, and made no attempt to brave it out, I guessed in a flash that here was Richard masquerading as John. To marry an actress, and secretly, would be exactly what Richard, the sneak, would do."

"But, auntie, Miss Sanding called her husband John."

"Then she is in the conspiracy along with Martha here, or else she believes that John is her husband. Richard may have taken his brother's name for marriage, in the same way as he has unlawfully seized it to gain possession of the money."

"I don't say a word!" cried the housekeeper, resolutely.

"Yes, you will! And what is more, Martha, you and Julia Flint will come down this very day to the Manor. There you shall sit upon your own eyes until this mystery is cleared up."

## CHAPTER XXII.

## In Danger.

WHEN Billy Minter returned home with the information that he had been to the Manor House, his sister guessed at once from the downcast expression of his face what had taken place.

"You have told Dorothy that Percy is in danger?" she said.

"Yes," admitted Billy, looking sheepish.

Willy said no more, since it was idle to scold her brother now that the mischief was done. She walked swiftly to the Manor, and found Dorothy and

Lady Panwin in the drawing-room. Dorothy was in tears, when she considered that Percy had gone to Soho and had not come back.

## A Mad Resolve.

"To-morrow," said Mr. Clair, very decidedly, "I shall send for Inspector Trusk, of Aisleigh, who previously had charge of the case. Possibly my friend, Sir John Newby, will be down to-morrow, and then we can examine Jules and make him confess all that we wish to know. You agree with me, Belina?"

"Yes," said Lady Panwin, unexpectedly, and immediately carried Dorothy beyond reach of her brother's foolish tongue.

Dorothy agreed to wait. She could do nothing else. Her lover appeared to be in a very perilous position, and in the hands of extremely desperate men. The least false step and he might be killed out of hand. When Lady Panwin left the room the poor girl went to bed and tried to forget in sleep the terrible position of her future husband.

## Into the Underworld.

In a few minutes she was dressed in a morning frock. She tied a woollen scarf over her head, and slipped a candle into her pocket. Then, taking her shoes in her hands, she crept down the shallow oaken stairs and stole out by the library window—a French one, which she could open almost noiselessly. Finally, lest her too vigilant aunt should chance to come down and trace her, Dorothy closed the window, so that she drew it to, since she could not fasten it from without—and walked softly round the corner of the manor, toward the tower of the ancient monastery.

When below she lighted the candle and proceeded along the narrow passage which she knew so well, and which she had last walked along with Percy. Then she fancied she heard a stealthy step, and paused in terror. Evidently, the candle, she listened, but could hear nothing. Thinking she had been mistaken, the girl relighted the taper and walked swiftly to the niche wherein the key was usually placed according to tradition. There it was, where it had been left after the trouble of the murder, so it was evident that no one had been to the vault since then.

Dorothy took down the key and slipped it into the lock. To turn it she had to place the candle on the ground. Shortly she managed to turn the key and open the heavy door. Reaching for the candle, she walked in timidly. As she did so, and just as she took three steps into the crypt, the door closed with a crash. Dorothy was terrified out of her wits. It could not be the wind, since there was no wind in these cavernous vaults. Some one must have followed her. Who could it be?

She ran to the door again, but before she could try and open a kind of groan made her turn sharply. She saw on the stone table whereon the corpse lay—another body! With a desperate effort she went up and held the candle over the face. Then she dropped it, and with a cry of terror, before she was gagged and bound, lay Percy Hallion, alive but helpless.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

## Imprisoned!

TO her dying day Dorothy never knew how she kept her senses at the critical moment.

For a time she fumbled with the ropes, but on finding her efforts vain she cooled down to unnatural self-control. Taking a calmer view of the singular situation, she reflected that it would be best to fight the candle. Then she could remove the gag and untie the bonds.

Afterwards—But she did not think further ahead, since the necessities of the moment had to be attended to. Percy, by inarticulate gurglings and writhings like a marionette, evidently trying to make her understand that he had recognized her face before the light went out. Feeling in the darkness, Dorothy discovered, more by intuition than in any other way, that the gag in Hallion's mouth was of the kind known in mediaeval times as "a pear."

There was a similar one in the Manor library, which had been found in the monastery ruins, and she knew well how to touch the spring. In a moment her nimble fingers had closed the four quarters of the pear, and she slipped it out of Percy's mouth. He sighed with relief, but his jaw was too sore to permit immediate speech. Shortly afterwards he was able to move his fingers, then his hands, finally his arms, and worked himself at shaking his legs to overcome the numbness. In less time than Dorothy thought possible, considering the dire condition in which she had found him, Percy was walking about the cell, gathering fresh life with every exertion of his energy. While he was thus restoring his vigor, Dorothy went to the door and tried it.

(To Be Continued.)

## The Chorus Lady

By James Forbes

A novel founded on the very successful play of which Rose Stahl was the Star.

Will begin in The Evening World Next Monday.

# The Newlyweds & Their Baby

By George McManus



## Things for Women To Know.

## To Mend Hemstitching.

COVER the space of the worn hemstitching with insertion and stitch both edges on to tray cloth, and it will then be as good as new, and even prettier.

## A Neat Patch.

TO mend the knees of little boys' trousers so they will look as well and wear as well as when new, rip the seams as far up as worn, cut away the worn part, take a piece of cloth like the garment, sew straight across the front, carefully matching goods; press the seam well, then shape by the piece cut off, sew up the seams, hem across the front. If the pressing is well done one could not tell they had been mended.

## Save Soft Linen.

DO not throw away the old tablecloths. When too much worn to use on the table, cut into convenient size, put narrow hem on sides and one inch hem on ends, and see what nice, soft face towels they will make.

## Cure for Cold Feet.

IF you are suffering with cold feet take the leather insole out of your shoes and paste it on a piece of heavy cardboard. Cut the cardboard the same size as the insole and paste back in the shoe so that the woolly side is next to the foot, and you will have no more cold feet.

## Oysters (Creole).

ONE quart of oysters, one pint toasted cracker crumbs, one cup of cream, five eggs well beaten, two small onions sliced, one bunch of celery chopped very fine, juice of one lemon. Into the well-beaten eggs add oysters, celery and onions, salt and pepper next cream and cracker crumbs and butter, last lemon juice. Serve in patty shells.

## May Manton's Daily Fashions.



Bathing Suit—Pattern No. 6007.

one 14 or 16-2 yards 52 inches wide, with 1-2 yards 27 inches wide for trimming and tie.

Pattern No. 6007 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure.

Call or send by mail to THE EVENING WORLD MAY MANTON FASHION BUREAU, No. 123 East Twenty-third Street, New York. Send 10 cents in coin or stamps for each pattern ordered.

IMPORTANT—Write your name and address plainly, and always specify size wanted.

## Betty Vincent's Advice on Courtship and Marriage.

## Ask for Her Affection.

Dear Betty: I AM a young man of twenty-two and like a young lady who works in the same office with me. I cannot tell whether she likes me or not. How can I find out? R. R.

## The Girl Bows First.

Dear Betty: IT is the girl's place to bow first. B says it is the boy's place. Who is right? If two girls and one boy are walking along, does the boy walk on the outside or in the middle? J. R. D.

## When One May Smoke.

Dear Betty: IT is proper for a young man calling on a young lady to smoke during the evening in her house? When out walking, if the lady gives her permission, is it proper for a man to smoke? My father says that it shows disrespect to him if I smoke in his or my mother's presence. He says that I must smoke he has no objections, but I should not do so in his presence. I am seventeen. W. C. W.

If the people in whose presence you are do not object to your smoking, there is no reason you should not do so, either in the house or on the street, though it is usually considered in better taste not to smoke on the street with ladies. You, too, young man, smoke, and certainly it would be inexcusable to smoke in the presence of your parents, or of any one to whom it is objectionable.

THE EVENING WORLD'S

## Civil Service :-

By Ernest L. Crandall,  
Former Civil Service Commissioner.

## School

## LESSON NO. 8.

### Police and Fire Service.

THE next paper to be considered is the arithmetic paper. This is of the most elementary character, yet it is surprising to see how many poor scholars fall down on it. Now, we cannot write a treatise here on elementary arithmetic, but there are certain "standard errors," so to speak, that the unsuccessful candidate makes nine times out of ten, and if these are pointed out you may with a little practice put yourself in line for 100 per cent. While the examples may take the form of "problems," the only processes involved will be simple addition, subtraction, multiplication and division—no fractions or decimals.

In addition there is but one thing to be observed. If your numbers are not all of equal length arrange them so that the last figures are all in the same column. Suppose you have to add 87,854, 7,232, 432 and 28,860. Following are the right and the wrong ways to arrange them:

Right way.	Wrong way.
87,854	37,856
7,232	7396
432	432
28,860	2380

This arrangement is necessary because of the inherent properties of numbers as expressed in figures, under what we call our decimal system, which means simply the practice we have adopted of expressing our numbers in multiples of ten. This arose from the fact that we happen to be born with ten fingers, and our ancestors, like our children, learned to count by means of those very useful "markers."

In the system of counting every place, or column, counting from the RIGHT, 0 in the fifth column; that made your 0 in the fourth column a 10, but you have a value ten times greater than the one in the place or column nearest on the right. Thus in the number 36,432 the first figure on the right represents "ones," the next ten times as much or "tens," the next ten times as much again or "hundreds," and so on. We really READ this number backward when we NAME it, for in HANDLING it in any way we have to start with the last figure, representing the "ones."

The number really means 3 tens, 6 ones, 4 hundreds, 32 thousands and three ten-thousands. It is built up this way, ready by addition:

3	30
6	60
4	400
3	3,000
2	20,000
	36,432

Now, this principle underlies the processes called "carrying" and "borrowing." You wish to add 26 and 37. Adding the 6 ones to the 7 ones you get 13 ones, or 3 ones and 1 ten. So you "carry" that 1 ten to the column where it belongs, leaving the 3 ones in THEIR proper column. Thus, in your tens column you have two tens plus 3 tens plus the 1 ten "carried," which makes 6 tens and 3 ones.

Again you want to subtract 18 from 32. As you cannot take 8 from 2, you "borrow" one of the three tens, making your 3 into 2 and subtract 8 from that, leaving 3. By so doing you have left but 2 tens in your tens column, and so there your subtraction is now from 2, leaving 1. Hence your result is 9 ones and 1 ten, or 19.

Here is an example in subtraction, which was once used in which is as likely to trip you up as any that could be set. Subtract 128,999 from 320,013. The result is as follows:

320,013	128,999	
191,014		

Now, you cannot take 9 from 2, so you "borrow" one from the left and make your two 12. Then 9 from 12 leaves 3. In borrowing from the left

## Coming Examinations.

Court Attendants—Sergeants of Aqueduct.

SUCH a large number of The Evening World's readers are interested in the court attendants' examination that we shall furnish instruction for it as soon as the conditions under which it will be held are a little more fully determined. The mental examination will probably not be held till July.

The duties of sergeant of aqueduct are to patrol that structure, mounted. A test of horsemanship is required. If your application is not in it is too late.

You reduced the 1 in the tens column to 0. As you cannot take 8 from 0 you must again borrow from the left. But what are you to borrow from? In the third, or hundreds, column there is only a 0. Hence, before you can borrow from this column you must first take a 0 a 10 by borrowing from the fourth, or thousands column (counting your columns always from the right).

But again here you find only a 0, and so before you can make even this "borrow" you must borrow one from the 3 in the ten-thousands column. Now, see what happens. With the one which you have finally borrowed you have made the 0 left in the second or tens column into a 10, and you take 8 from 10, which leaves 2.

Now, here is where you forget something. When you started out to "borrow" you had to go away over to the 3 in the fifth column; that made your 0 in the fourth column a 10, but you have a value ten times greater than the one in the place or column nearest on the right. Thus in the number 36,432 the first figure on the right represents "ones," the next ten times as much or "tens," the next ten times as much again or "hundreds," and so on. We really READ this number backward when we NAME it, for in HANDLING it in any way we have to start with the last figure, representing the "ones."

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	36,432

Now, as to the shape in which the examples will be given: The plain problems in addition will be unmistakable. You will be told that a concern sold 27,856 barrels of flour in one month, 38,432 the next, &c., and you cannot well run off the track. But you may find both processes involved in one "problem," and you must then be careful to unravel just what is meant by the question, and just what will mean what you are expected to do with the figures.

Take this, for example: "A had \$2,456 and B \$4,895. A gained \$1,146 and B lost \$602. Which then had the more and how much?"

Here you must add A's gain to his principal, that is—the sum he had to start with, and subtract B's loss from his principal; then subtract the smaller result from the larger, stating which is the "winner." Thus:

\$2,456	\$4,895	\$4,895
1,146	602	4,293
\$3,602		\$6,188

Answer. A has \$218 more.

We shall finish the arithmetic series in our next number and after that take up the government paper in the same thorough manner.

## Funny Fancies.

MISSRESS—Have you boiled the clothes, Lucille?  
New Girl—Yes'm; how do you want 'em seasoned?—Lardersville Herald.

"Why do they have consultations of physicians, pa?"  
"Sometimes one doctor can think of something to operate for that hasn't occurred to the other."—Smart Set.

A small city child, on visiting the country for the first time, was taken to the barn to see the milking. She was much amused, but refused to drink any milk during her visit because "she did not want it after the cow had had it."—Harper's Monthly.

Boggs—I'd like to have my face on all the \$10 bills.  
Coggins—I'd prefer to have my hands on them.—Harvard Lampoon.

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